

INTRODUCTION

- * Advent - a time to reflect upon the wonder of the incarnation!
- * As the resurrection of Christ is the climax and core of the gospel message, so the incarnation is the foundation and strength of the gospel message.
- * During the past three weeks, we have considered the impact of the incarnation upon the Revelation of God and on the Redemption of Man.
- * Last week, we began to look at the impact of the incarnation that is revealed in The Reflection of Christ in our lives.
- * Christ did not come only to redeem us but to present us an example of how we are to live in this world. Those who are His, will reflect that mindset and lifestyle throughout their lives.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE GOAL OF JOHN'S TESTIMONY

- A. The **Description of Your Joy** be full (pf ... that you may be perpetually filled!) ...
- B. The **Inception of Your Joy** (cf. **John 15:10-11**) ... *The Impact of the Incarnation!*
- * Christ came that you might have perpetual joy! ... But that joy is tied to your relationship to Christ (John 15:11) ... It is His joy - in you!
 - * So, in order for you to experience this fullness of joy you MUST be in Christ!

YOUR JOY IS A REFLECTION OF THE JOY OF CHRIST IN YOU!

II. THE GENUINENESS OF YOUR REFLECTION

- A. **Walking In Light** (cf. **1 John 1:6-7; 2:3-6; 2:28-3:10; 5:2-5; 5:14-21**)

B. Walking In L_____

1. CHRIST'S EX_____ TO LOVE

- a. The C_____ from Our Savior (cf. 2:7-11; 3:11,23; 4:21; John 13:34-35; Leviticus 19:17-18)
- b. The C_____ of Our Salvation (cf. 2:10; 3:14,19; 4:7-8,11-12,16,20; 5:1)

2. GOD'S EX_____ OF LOVE

- a. The M_____ ation of God's Love (cf. 3:16; 4:9-10)
- b. The M_____ ation of God's Love (cf. 4:8,16)

3. OUR EX_____ OF LOVE

- a. Showing Your Love By W_____ (2:10)
- i. THE D_____ TION OF A STUMBLING-BLOCK
- ii. THE I_____ TION OF A STUMBLING-BLOCK
- * cf. Matthew 13:41-42; 16:23; Romans 14:13; Revelation 2:14;
 - * cf. Romans 9:33; 1 Corinthians 1:22-24; Galatians 5: 11; 1 Peter 2:6-8)
- b. Showing Your Love By W_____ (cf. 3:16-18; Philippians 2:3-8)
- i. CONSIDERING THE V_____ OF OTHERS ABOVE YOUR OWN WILL BE MANIFESTED IN A WILLINGNESS TO S_____
- ii. CONSIDERING THE N_____ OF OTHERS ABOVE YOUR OWN WILL BE MANIFESTED IN A WILLINGNESS TO S_____

C. Walking In L_____

INTROSPECTION

- * HOW WOULD OTHERS DESCRIBE YOUR LOVE FOR GOD?
- HOW WOULD OTHERS DESCRIBE YOUR LOVE FOR THE BRETHREN?
- * ARE YOUR POSSESSIONS YOUR'S, OR DO YOU SEE YOURSELF AS A STEWARD OF GOD?
- * HOW IMPORTANT TO YOU IS THE EXPRESSION OF GOD'S LOVE? THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS REVEALED IN THE ANSWER TO THE PREVIOUS QUESTIONS!
- * IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" ... AND, THEREFORE, ACT?